

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Do you know that...

1 in 5 female high school girls report being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.

Journal of Pediatrics, August 2001

1 in 3 teens report knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, slapped, choked or physically hurt by a dating partner.

Liz Claiborne Inc., February 2005

67% of female victims and 88% of male victims who reported sexual assaults to law enforcement were under the age of 18.

National Center for Juvenile Justice, March 2006

1 in 4 teens in a relationship (25%) say they have been called names, harassed, or put down by their partner through cellphones and texting.

Liz Claiborne Inc., January 2007

RESOURCES

Help for Abused Women and their Children (HAWC),
Salem
978-744-6841

Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center, Newburyport
24 Hour HOTLINE 978-388-1888

YWCA of Greater Lawrence
978-687-0331 ext. 1044

Women's Resource Center, Haverhill
978-685-2480

North Shore Rape Crisis Center, Beverly
24 Hour HOTLINE 800-922-8772

Massachusetts SafeLink
24 Hour HOTLINE 877-785-2020

National Domestic Violence Hotline
800-799-SAFE (7233)

National Teen Dating Violence Helpline
loveisrespect.org
1-866-331-9497

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**TEEN DATING
VIOLENCE**
What to do now?



**Essex District Attorney
Jonathan W. Blodgett**

Teen Dating Violence is controlling, abusive and aggressive behavior in a relationship.

Any teenager can be a victim of dating violence.

Teen dating violence is controlling behavior that includes one or more of the following:

**PUSHING - FORCING YOU TO HAVE SEX - HITTING
FORCING YOU TO DO THINGS YOU DO NOT WANT TO DO
PLAYING MIND GAMES - MAKING DECISIONS FOR YOU
PREVENTING YOU FROM SEEING FRIENDS - THREATS**

A Message from Jonathan W. Blodgett Essex District Attorney

Teen Dating Violence is a growing problem in today's society and affects many young people in our communities. Both boys and girls can be victims of dating violence. Dating violence is controlling, abusive and aggressive behavior in a relationship. It can include verbal, emotional, physical and sexual abuse, or a combination.

Crimes committed in a dating relationship are prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

This brochure was designed to help you or someone you know who may be at risk of harm from dating violence. Get help early, and do not be afraid to talk to someone you trust.



Things to do when you are ending an abusive relationship:

- Tell someone you trust that you are afraid.
- Let others know where you are going.
- Avoid being alone with your partner.
- Call the police or 911 in an emergency.
- Go to court for a protective order.
- Vary your route to school, work and your home.
- Stay aware of your surroundings and stay safe.

Things to do to help someone else:

- Talk to the teen and do not be judgmental about the abuse.
- Encourage the teen to get help.
- Refer him/her to a hotline or other resource.
- Tell the teen you care and you are concerned.
- Learn more about teen dating violence.
- Listen to what the teen has to say.